

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

COVID-19

Inmate Quarantine & Isolation Protocols

Last Updated: 5/7/2021

All quarantine and isolation protocols are enacted by the RIDOC Medical Director based on Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines; ***however***, RIDOC is unique as it is considered a congregate living setting, thus there are multiple factors that contribute to this decision making. RIDOC routinely consults with the RIDOH to determine the best course of action based upon these factors and the individual circumstances surrounding an exposure.

Quarantine and isolation protocols for inmates differ depending on the facility and can change often for various reasons. In general quarantine and isolation for inmates entails a restriction in movement (e.g., smaller groups, meals taken in cells, programs curtailed). The level of restriction expands and contracts as needed, depending on the level of infection within a facility.

QUARANTINE PROTOCOLS

Quarantine is used to keep someone *who might have been exposed to COVID-19* away from others. Quarantine helps prevent spread of disease that can occur before a person knows they are sick. People in quarantine should separate from others, their health is monitored regularly, and they should follow directions given by their healthcare provider.

Quarantine Period is 14 days from commitment to the Adult Correctional Facilities (ACI), or from last date of contact with a COVID positive person

Masks (KN95) must be worn by inmates on quarantine whenever out of their cell

ISOLATION PROTOCOLS

Isolation is used to separate people infected with COVID-19, or people who are sick with COVID-19 symptoms, from people who are not infected. People in isolation remain separate from others, their health is monitored regularly, and they should follow directions given by their healthcare provider.

Isolation Period is 10 days from the positive test, or from the start of symptoms

Masks must be worn by inmates on isolation whenever out of their cell

GENERAL TESTING INFORMATION

Inmate testing schedules vary depending on the number of positives in the facility.

- When there are minimal to no positive COVID cases in a facility, surveillance testing is done once a month, except for Minimum Security and the Women's Facility. Due to their dormitory style setting Minimum and Women's are tested every other week.
- If there is a spike in COVID positive cases at a facility, that facility is tested weekly.
- Inmates who have tested positive for COVID will not be re-tested for 90 days based on recommendations from the CDC and RIDOH.

MASK REQUIREMENTS

All inmates are required to wear masks whenever they are out of their cell.
